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TRANSMITTAL LETTER
(General - Patent Pending)

1711/AS
Docket No.
P02389

In RE: Application No. Salamone, et al.

Serial No. 09/738,808	Filing Date December 15, 2000	Examiner I. Soubra	Group Art Unit 1711
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Title: Prevention of Preservative Uptake Into Biomaterials

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Response to Office Action
Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time

in the above identified application.

No additional fee is required.

A check in the amount of _____ is attached.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-1425 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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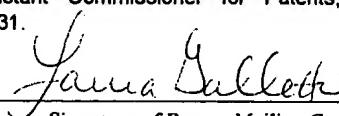


Signature

Dated: April 24, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of

Salamone et al.

Serial No.: 09/738,808

Filed: December 15, 2000

For: Prevention Of Preservative Uptake Into Biomaterials

Docket: P02389

Examiner: I. Soubra

Art Group: 1711

*TOP
AS
5/29/2*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the US Patent & Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231, on April 24, 2002.

Laura A. Galletto
Laura A. Galletto

AMENDMENT

Director of the US Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Office Action November 6, 2001 in the above-identified application, and is accompanied by a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time. Please amend this application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

C1
1. (twice amended) A method for treating a hydrogel biomaterial comprising contacting the surface of said hydrogel biomaterial with a cationic polysaccharide to inhibit the ability of the hydrogel biomaterial to sorb cationic antimicrobials.

Please cancel claim 8.

Please add the following new claim:

C2
-- 23. The method of claim 6 wherein the cationic charge on the cationic polysaccharide is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of ammonium groups, quaternary ammonium groups, sulfonium groups, and phosphonium groups. --

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